

THE

Digger

Vol. 2. No. 5

REGINA

September, 1945



FLO RENAUD

JACK BAHR

PEGGY SCOTT

JIM LARKIN

Join the 25 Year Club

Mr. A. E. Larkin, Mr. J. Bahr, Miss Flo Renaud and Miss Peggy Scott, the new members of the 25 year club, accompanied by Mrs. A. E. Larkin and Mrs. Jack Bahr, left for Toronto on Monday, September 17, 1945 at 9.15.

Representatives from the Social Club presented the ladies with rose corsages and the men with boutonnieres of white carnations.

Also present to wish them a pleasant journey were, Mr. F. E. Reid, Mr. S. Larkin, Mr. R. N. Strain and Mr. H. Hunter.

Flo Renaud

We extend our heartiest congratulations, and welcome Flo Renaud to the Twenty-Five Year Club.

Flo, born in Montreal, moved to the Western plains at an early age, and took her schooling in Northern Saskatchewan.

Coming to Regina in 1920, she started working with the Robert Simpson Western Limited in the Recording Department, under the supervision of Mr. Artiss, where she remained for

nine years. Later she was transferred to the Return Shoe Department, with Mr. W. Walters as manager, and this position she still retains.

Flo's hobby is travelling, and she has been both East and West. In 1933 she attended the Chicago World Fair. Flo is looking forward to her trip East with the Twenty-Five Year Club and plans to holiday in Montreal while she is down there.

Best of luck, and again welcome to a friendly Simpsonite.

(Continued on page 2)



AWAY BACK WHEN — Remember?

This scene recalls one of the highlights of an annual picnic — year 1937.

Burlesquing the larger American Bathing Beauty Contests, Simpsons decided that some of our own provincial spots should have international recognition, with the above result.

Charlie Burton	Miss B-Say-Tah Point
Dolly Biggart	Miss Boggy Creek
Beth Luddeth	Miss Hungry Hollow
Doug. Johnson	Miss Avonlea
Emily Roberts	Miss Condie Dam
Ernie Milne	Miss La Jord
Effie Campbell	Miss Bryant's Islands
Ernie Dennis	Miss Regina Jail
Ken Goldie	Miss Silver Castle Inn
Albert Reist	Miss Pinkie
Marj. MacLennan	Miss Craven

Ann Christie	Miss Poplar Park
Cliff Cushing (late)	Miss Wascana Lake
Nellie Passman	Wardrobe Mistress
Eleanor Davies	Miss Power House
Carl Peterson	Miss Drinkwater
Elva Reaney	Miss Air Port
Agnes Behan	Miss Balgonie
Shirley Volbrecht	Miss Brownlee
Billie Zurowski	Miss Long Lake
Mary Webber	Miss Buena Vista

Assisting Nellie with the designing and creating of the costumes was the late Cathie Canfield. Prize winners were Billie Zurowski and Carl Peterson.

Twenty-Five Year Club

(Continued)

Miss Peggy Scott

The year 1945 has been eventful for Miss Peggy Scott for more reasons than one. To begin with, she returned from her holidays this summer wearing a beautifully set ruby on her third finger, left hand; on September 14th she celebrated twenty-five years with the Company, and was presented with an exquisite coffee table by the Adjusting Department girls.

Congratulations, Miss Scott!

Jack Bahr (Shipping Dept.)

Born in central Europe, Jack emigrated to Canada in 1914, where for some time he worked on a farm at Kronau, Sask.

In the fall of 1917 he began work at Simpson's where he stayed until Christmas then returned to the farm.

In 1920 he again returned to the Company, as a packer in the Shipping Department. Jack efficiently carried out the duties of packer until 1940 when he became section head of that group. His service has been continuous since 1920 except for a year's leave of absence in 1935, due to a nervous breakdown.

Jack lives at 2154 Broder Street with his wife and three daughters, all of school age.

He has taken an active interest in boxing and wrestling. His hobby is astronomy, and he has been working on a telescope mirror, which will soon be completed.

This year Jack became a member of the 25

year club and we are sure that he will enjoy his trip East.

A. E. Larkin

Jim Larkin, a transplanted Londoner (Eng.), took his schooling there, where he was quite a hand at cricket and football, later entering the manufacturing end of the boot and shoe business.

A veteran of World War I he came to Canada in April 1920, to farm at Craik but on the 4th of October of that year was on the train en route back to England. However his plans were foiled in Regina, as one A. C. Finley, then in charge of mail order shoes, asked him to come to Simpson's. Mr. Larkin recalls that Mr. K. E. C. Cornwall was Branch Manager at that time.

In December 1928 as assistant manager of the shoe group, he took over the direction of M. O. Depts. 22, 24, 26, 28 (Ladies' Lingerie) where he still reigns. He is firmly convinced that a good grounding in the shoe business enabled him to sparkle in Ladies' Lingerie.

A member of the Canadian Legion and a Mason of the N.W.M.P. Lodge in Regina, he and Mrs. Molly Larkin, who incidentally was the first member of the British Women's Army Auxiliary to be married in France; at Calais in April 1918, live at 2168 Rae Street. Their daughter, Molly, was recently married to a New Zealand Flying Officer, while their son, Capt. Terence, spent the last six years serving with The Black Watch, and Canadian Artillery.

(Continued on page 3)

KNOW YOUR PEOPLE

ETHEL SWAYZE
(AUDIT)

Entering upon her 16th year with the firm, Ethel Swayze hails from Carnduff, Sask., where she lived until 1929, coming then to Regina, to train as a nurse. She decided to give up Nursing, and came to Simpson's the same year, and through the help of the late Mr. F. A. Simpson, started in the Recording Department. After several years, Ethel changed to Catalogue work, and in February 1943, transferred to the Sales Audit Staff, where she is at present.

An amiable person, Ethel is on the Executive of the Social Club, looks after the Small Loans in the Service Building, and is a Canvasser for the Victory Loan Committee.

Prominent in community affairs, Ethel is a Past Noble Grand of the Rebecca Lodge and a member of the Past Noble Grand Association.

A fondness for travelling plays an important role in Ethel's life, she having just returned from Vancouver by air.

Congratulations on your 16 years of service, and we wish you, good luck, good health and happiness.



Twenty-Five Year Club

(Continued)

During the war years the Larkin's have kept "open house" for the men of the services from all parts of the world, their Visitor's Book containing the names of over 1500 men and women who have paused at their home.

This year marks Jim Larkin's twenty-fifth year of service with the Company and he with his wife will fittingly mark the occasion with the Twenty-Five Year Club at the Toronto dinner.

Congratulations!!!

9th VICTORY LOAN AHEAD!

This loan will cover a year instead of only six months as in the past. We can spread our payments over 50 weeks instead of 25.

Our purchases of Victory Bonds has taught many of us the advantages of personal savings.

We still have need of this important way of saving our money for FUTURE plans;—plans which will not fully materialize until the upward pressure on prices is reduced;—until the rehabilitation of our returned men and women is accomplished.

Our Boys must be brought safely home and rehabilitated.

Our own personal plans cannot all be fulfilled—yet.

Our purchase of Ninth Victory Bonds will help do these as well as other things necessary for the return to a normal life!

Who Could It Be??

"Full many a gem of purest ray serene,
The dark, unfathomed caves of ocean bare
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen
And waste its sweetness on the desert air."

Little do we realize our blessings out here on the prairie. Frances Macnab of the Order Review recently returned from a trip to Toronto. While there, of course she took a trip through the Mail Order and visited Glenora Hall. It was all very interesting she said—but the highlight of the whole tour was the reception she got in some of the Service Depts. When the girls found out she was from Regina and worked near "that nice red headed fellow" from the Pricing who had been there in July, she says the looks of mingled envy and awe she received when they told her how lucky she was, made her realize how little we appreciate the gems in our midst.

A SUCCESS TALK by Roderick G. Stevens

The fellow who starts out in the morning behind time buckles a handicap on himself that follows him throughout the day.

He is wrong himself—and when a man is wrong and knows it he is sure to diffuse a feeling of discomfort wherever he goes and leave its imprint upon the product of his hand and brain.

People who get into the habit of being always just a few minutes behind time go through life dragging the heavy chain of a disturbed existence behind them.

Autumn Social Activities!

Former employees visited in Mr. Fogarty's Dept. and renewed acquaintances, namely, Wren Gladys Tindall, Halifax; Miss Grace Bain, Minneapolis, Miss Alma Wolfe, Markinch; Randall McLean, R.C.N.V.R., and Mrs. Donbrook.

* * *

The Misses Ruby and Justine Stancove were recent hostesses at a very pleasantly arranged tea in honor of Wren Gladys Tindall.

* * *

L/Wren Carrie Skillicorn recently returned from the Canadian Base in Londonderry, North Ireland, has now returned to Halifax after a short leave spent at her home in Regina.

* * *

While on holiday in Regina, Mrs. Ray Langdon of Calgary (formerly Eileen Fearey, Adjusting) visited the store. We realize how lucky we were to see Eileen after she related the story of her first banana cream pie!

* * *

Miss Margaret Oates (formerly of Dept. 22) now residing in Lethbridge, was in visiting her many friends.

* * *

Mr. McGregor, a well-known employee, formerly of the Receiving, and now residing in Vancouver, wishes to be remembered to all his old friends and really looks forward to receiving "The Digger."

* * *

A recent visitor to the Store and Charge Office was Pte. Margaret (Daisy) Duck of the C.W.A.C., who has just returned from three years service overseas in England, France, Belgium and Germany. Margaret is a former employee, having been associated with the Time Payment Office for nine years prior to leaving to reside in Vancouver.

* * *

Effie Campbell entertained at her home in honor of Pte. Margaret Duck, when a number of "old friends" got together over a cup of tea, to talk about the good old days, and to hear of some of Margaret's experiences on the field of battle.

* * *

Mrs. E. McCall of Edmonton (Birdie Cowhig) dropped in to see the Retail folks while holidaying with her mother, recently.

* * *

Marie Jamieson (General Office) bride-elect, was honored when the girls of the General and Wage Office held a shower at the home of Doris Burns. Bunco was played during the evening, the prizes being won by E. Balabuck, M. McDonald and M. Jamieson. Following the refreshments, E. Balabuck obliged by reading tea-cups. Several gifts were given to the guest of honor, by those present. Mrs. B. Robson made the presentation.

Mr. F. E. Doull presented Marie Jamieson with a lovely mirror on behalf of her fellow-employees, when she left the firm recently. Good luck and happiness to Marie and Bert!

Elda Meets Brother After 21 Years

Elda Quiring of Dept. 63, is back at work after having spent a nice holiday at her home at Lanigan. Elda received a lovely surprise one day, when the girl at the Enquiry Desk phoned to say a gentleman wished to see her on the 4th floor. The gentleman happened to be Elda's brother from Nebraska, whom she hadn't seen for 21 years. Elda left work at once and went home with him to Lanigan, where they attended the wedding of another brother.

* * *

A gold locket was presented to Nell Hyland from the Pricing, Sales Analysis and Cancelling when she left us recently to return to her home in Palmer, Sask.

* * *

Dorothy Jeffery, R.C.A.F. (W.D.) of the Cash Office, is now stationed at Yorkton, and has this to say about "The Digger", "I have thoroughly enjoyed every issue of the paper and sincerely hope they will be printed for years to come."

* * *

We are glad to see Orabelle MacDonald (Recording) back, fully recovered from her lengthy illness.

* * *

Bob Holmlund (Dept. 50) has returned to work after a few days in the hospital.

* * *

Cash Office losses—Marion Lelond and Irene Gregg,—Mrs. Parkin made the presentations.

* * *

We don't think Ronnie Shawcross is trying to crowd in on Van Johnson, but the handsome Major certainly caused many a feminine heart to flutter when he dropped in to chat with his good friend, Mrs. Parkin.

* * *

September Weddings

Miss Annette Olson (Lingerie Invoices) became the bride of Mr. Irvin Grainger, at a ceremony performed at Ogema on September 4. After a honeymoon spent at Calgary, Banff and Lethbridge, Annette has returned to assume her duties. Best wishes to a very happy couple!

* * *

On September 11, at First Baptist Church, Miss Dorothy James (Dept. 22) became the bride of Mr. Wm. McKillop. Prior to leaving the staff, Dot was presented with a coffee table by Mr. Larkin on behalf of the staff. Best wishes to you both!

* * *

Miss Dorothy Woods (Dept. 23), who left recently to be married, was presented with a gift by Mr. Trim on behalf of the 6th floor staff.

* * *

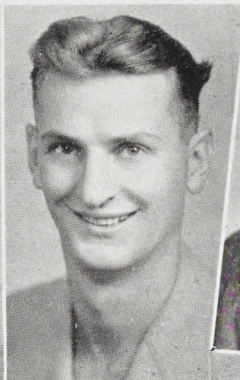
Miss Blanche Marie Jamieson (Gen. Office) became the bride of F.O. Herbert Ramsden at a ceremony performed at Carmichael Church, September 15. After a honeymoon to be spent in Vancouver, Marie and her good man will settle down at Nelson, B.C. Our best wishes to you both!



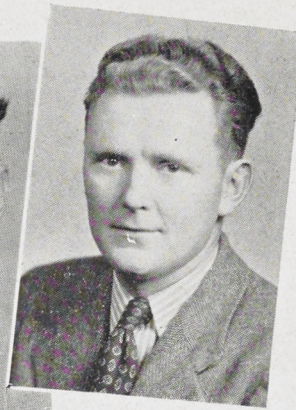
LINDSAY HAMILTON



BARBARA LEONARD



GORDON FIELDGATE



GRANT CHAPMAN

Return to Civvie Street

Lindsay Hamilton

We welcome Lindsay back to "Civvie Street" after an absence of two and a half years.

He joined the R.C.A.F. in July 1943 as a Wireless Operator, training in Calgary, Dafoe, Three Rivers and Lachine. He was transferred to the Staff at Summerside, Prince Edward Island, and later he had a coastal assignment at Pennfield Ridge, New Brunswick. He was posted back to Regina and discharged August 6th. Lindsay remarked, "It's good to be back at No. 2 Warehouse."

Mrs. Barbara Leonard (nee Gordon)

In 1942 Barbara joined the C.W.A.C. in Regina and after taking her basic, she worked in the Laird Building (Ordnance Corp) where she became a sergeant. During her three and a half years of Army life she married B. L. Leonard. She was reinstated in September 1945 and is now in Mr. Farr's office. Welcome back, Barbara, to Civvie Street.

Gordon Fieldgate

When Gordon joined the R.C.N.V.R. in December 1940 he certainly saw the world. On the Prince David he was a stoker and spent time in the Carribean, Alaska and Panama zones. He took a one-year course in engineering, then went on the Corvette "Hawkesbury" in the north Atlantic for a year. When Gordon was discharged in August 1945 he was Chief Engine Room Artificer. We are glad he's back with us now in 40 Department.

Grant Chapman

Grant joined the R.C.A.F. in the fall of 1941. He trained to be a pilot at Prince Albert and McLeod, Alta. After receiving his wings, Grant went overseas and went on operations with the R.A.F. Landing back in Canada on V-Day, he stayed three months in the East and was reinstated here on August 13th. Mighty glad to have you back, Grant! (You'll find him in the Shipping Annex).

SMOKE CLEARS—ADVISORY COMMITTEE ELECTED

Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER, MISS KATE KENNEDY, and MR. HARRY LAMBERTON are the popular candidates elected to the Advisory Committee of the Simpson Employees' Savings and Profit Sharing Fund.

Congratulations to the Committee—and thanks to all members for a successful election.

BEREAVEMENTS

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Mrs. Black (Cafeteria) whose father passed away recently.

We also extend our deepest sympathy to Miss Helen Sipos, Recording Department, whose father passed away.

Hot Dogs!

It takes a weiner roast to bring on a g... rain—and the one held by the Pricing, Sales Analysis and Cancelling, the end of August, was no exception—it ended up in a cloudburst.

Little daunted by the drizzle that had started when we left home we proceeded out to Boggy Creek and had our party under the shelter. A bon-fire of course was impossible so we had our weiners boiled instead of burnt, and the coffee was delicious (thanks, cooks!)

By flashlight and on a lunch table (music supplied by a portable gramophone) Elsie Mundt and Vicky Maxim took their life in their hands and gave a few lessons on jitter-bugging, it was tricky to say the least, but if the spectators had done a little less laughing the pupils may have accomplished more.

Nothing like a good rain to make a gal let her hair down—so a lot of fun was had by all.



MISS ELEANOR PHILLEY MARRIES

A very cheerful and popular member of our staff. Miss Eleanor Philley recently left us to marry the number one man in her life, Mr. Stan Matthews of Assiniboia. For the past three years Eleanor has supervised our Employment Office, and lent a sympathetic ear to hundreds of people young and old, seeking employment with the Company.

Many functions were held for this charming bride. Miss Haney entertained at the tea hour in the Saskatchewan Hotel and presented the honoree with a beautiful picture on behalf of those present. Miss Ev. and Ethel Swayze entertained a number of friends at their home and showered the guest with gifts.

On behalf of the staff, Mr. F. E. Reid made a presentation of a coffee table and ornament, and expressed to Eleanor the Company's and staffs' best wishes for her future happiness.

Humor--- Fun in a lighter vein

A woman worries about the future until she gets a husband, while a man never worries about the future until he gets a wife.

Three professors were sitting in the railway station waiting room, deeply engrossed in conversation while waiting for their train.

Suddenly they looked up to see the train just pulling out, and made a wild dash to catch it. Two of them did manage to clamber aboard by the skin of their teeth, and the other was left panting on the end of the platform, muttering to himself.

A sympathetic passerby said, "Never mind, old chap. Two of you made the grade. Two out of three is a pretty good average."

"That may be," said the disgruntled professor, "But you see I was catching the train. They were merely here to see me off."

Definitions

Imagination is something that sits up with a gal when her husband comes home late.

A philosopher is a person who says he doesn't mind which side his bread is buttered on, because he eats both sides anyway.

We used to wonder what the future had in store for us. Now we wonder what the store will have for us in the future.

"Have a good time at the party, daughter, and be a good girl."

"Make up your mind, mother."

He—"I can't see what keeps you girls from freezing."

She—"You're not supposed to."

AUTUMN SOCIAL ACTIVITIES—Continued

Miss Freda Fitzpatrick of Toronto, editor of Simpson's Staff News, visited in Regina for several days recently in the interests of the several staff papers.

Mr. Reid arranged a pleasurable luncheon at the Assiniboia Club in honor of Miss Fitzpatrick. The officials of the Company and the editorial board of The Digger were present.

A surprise visit by Hannah Tilson was enjoyed by her many friends. We were very pleased when she commented enthusiastically on the smart appearance of the Cash Office, where she was formerly employed.

Hannah has been receiving a copy of The Digger since its inception, and is now considering taking out a subscription!

Recent visitors from Toronto were Mr. H. G. Minhinnick and Mr. S. A. Taylor of Mail Order Shoe Department.

Norma Grant, fourth floor, left recently to take up residence at the west coast. She was presented with a gift of a leather writing case and a pen.

Jack MacArthur, Dept. 29, recently left to attend University at Saskatoon. A gift of a pen was presented by Mr. Burton on behalf of the staff.

KNOW YOUR PEOPLE

THOMAS McCONNELL
(RECEIVING)

"Tom", as he is known to many of us, was born in Scotland.

When eight years of age the lure of distant lands and perhaps his ancestral instincts brought him to Regina where he received all his schooling. After public school he began taking electrical engineering but left the course before completion to work at the Imperial Oil.

In February 1928 he came to Simpson's where he worked under Mrs. Dixon, and later Mr. Strain in the Shipping Department. Two years ago he was transferred to the Receiving Department where he now holds the position of foreman.

Tom lives at 927 Winnipeg Street with his wife and four young daughters. Has taken many extensive motor trips throughout Canada and the United States.

When not planning a trip Tom indulges in the great sport of hunting. Right now Thomas, we will be wishing you good hunting.



The Stork Club

To Mr. and Mrs. James Brennan, Edmonton (Pat Fairley, a little sister for Sheila Maureen on Aug. 26th. Pat and

Kathleen Patricia are both well.

* * *

To Mr. and Mrs. Jack Haigh on September 9, the gift of a daughter. Congratulations to you both!

* * *

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Neil Vancise (Dept. 10) a daughter, Beverley Anne, on August 22. Mrs. Vancise was formerly Doris Haywood of the Pricing Dept.

* * *

To Mr. and Mrs. Dick Fogarty, a granddaughter—Karen Lynn, born September 13—weight 6 lbs. 12 oz.

Heartiest congratulations and best wishes to the parents (Junior Fogartys) as well as to the grandparents, especially grandpa, whose chest has expanded 4 inches.

* * *

Fred Naylor (Doorman) is the proud father of a nine-pound four and three-quarter ounce baby girl, Margaret Elaine, born Aug. 21, 1945.

* * *

To Mr. and Mrs. Tom O'Connell, a baby girl was born on August 28th, weighing 8 lbs. 3¾ ounces. Congratulations to all!

Watch Your No's!

"The Look" — "The Body" — and "The Voice" are all pretty well known terms these days, thanks to Hollywood, by which we have come to recognize various personalities of the screen. We admit these titles were slyly introduced into our vocabulary by clever press-agency, and are composed mainly of flattery.

There is another term by which our customers may soon be thinking of us, however, which is not flattering at all. In the past few years, owing to the increasing difficulty in obtaining many lines of merchandise, and the total disappearance of certain commodities from the market, the little word "No" has been playing an ever greater part in our clerk-to-customer conversation.

This word "No" has been growing to such an extent that, if we are not exceedingly careful **how, why and when** we use it, we are going to be at least thought of, if not spoken of, as "The No's". Spelled differently, it might do fine for Jimmy Durante, but spelled any way you like, it is still far from flattering. It is quite possible, and in fact absolutely essential, that we modify, embroider and generally manipulate this word in such a way that, while it does not change the situation wherein we are actually out of stock, the result is that the customer leaves us knowing that we are on **her** side, and in full sympathy, but in the meantime we have sent her away the happy possessor of at least one **other** item to fill the gap. We want that customer back when we do have the line she originally wanted, and we'll get her back, if we

WATCH OUR NO'S!

We are glad to welcome Albert Reist back to our Simpson family. Albert has been employed in war work at the Esquimalt Shipyard since January, 1943. He is now working in the Mail Filing Department.



FORMER REGINA MEMBER JOINS 25 YEAR CLUB

Mr. Lorne M. Hewitson, Assistant Buyer in the Mail Order Men's and Boys' Clothing, Toronto, joins the 25 Year Club. Lorne started his career with the Company in Regina and is well known to many of the present staff. The gathering above was held in the Employees' Cafeteria, Toronto, and was attended by his staff. Mr. F. F. Bell, Manager, made a presentation of a Masonic ring. For the occasion his office was decorated with life-like cartoons, and in this we believe Ernie Dennis had a big hand. Ernie also hails from Regina Retail Display Department.



MR. W. H. EDINBURGH RETIRES

Mr. W. H. Edinburgh, a veteran of the General Office staff, retires on pension Sept. 29, 1945 after 27 years with the Company.

Interviewed by The Digger reporter on impressions of his life long experience he states:

"A retrospect of 65 years on the job of earning a living, impresses one with the tremendous advancement in living conditions made during that period. Likewise the development of Labor's standing in the world of industry. Conditions that 50 years back were regarded as 'Pipe Dreams.'"

"On retiring after over a quarter of a century in the service of The Robert Simpson Co., I recall the fact that the welfare of their Staff has been manifested on very many occasions, the consideration shown for their comfort and general conditions of work by the past and present Heads of the organization has induced a solid feeling of loyalty, and a fine spirit of co-operation between management and staff. The public slogan of 'You'll Enjoy Shopping at Simpson's,' might well be matched by one for the staff, i.e., 'You'll Enjoy Working for Simpson's.'"

—W. H. Edinburgh

Good luck, good health and long life!

"THESE SHORTAGES ARE GETTING ME DOWN!"

"There's a boy in the hospital—he used to be a football player. He's lost two legs and an arm. He never says anything. Ever since he's been here he's just lain with his face to the wall. And there's nothing you can do for him."

Mrs. Evie Robert, a society woman who now devotes her life to helping others, told that little tale to an interviewer for the newspaper PM. It's something to keep in mind when that mind starts buzzing on the subject of shortages—not enough meat, butter, sugar, lingerie, shirts-and-shorts.

When we stack the minor and temporary shortages we "suffer" alongside the permanent shortage faced by this one-time football player, our troubles may assume their true proportions. He is short three-quarters of his limbs, and that shortage will not be relieved, as ours will be. **His** lack is lifelong.

Perhaps it's correct that "there's nothing you can do for him" right now. He probably wants to die. But he'll get over that. He'll face the world again, like the hero he is, and probably show us pointers, even with his ersatz arms and legs.

Come to think of it, though, there **is** one thing we can do for him and for the many others like him. We can cease wailing about our "shortages" and making them worse and inviting inflation in to mess up our country's economy. That's what we do when we buy more than we need, and when we pay more than things are worth.

Instead of creating that sort of "Crazy House" economy to make things tougher for this soldier who gave years of his young life, three of his limbs and a slice of his future happiness for us, we can help keep our economy solid. How? By holding that loose cash of ours in Victory Bonds, and by continuing to put it right there. That will be good for him, and mighty good for us too.

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THE STAFF OF

Simpson's

REGINA